

## In the News

### ARMY NEWS SERVICE (JULY 13, 2007) ARMY'S LAND WARRIOR SYSTEM INCREASES SOLDIERS' COMBAT CAPABILITIES

**F**ort Belvoir, Va.—Soldiers from Fort Lewis, Wash., who have been using the Land Warrior and Mounted Warrior systems in Iraq for the last 45 days report that these “great tools” have surpassed their expectations.

Soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Division's 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, are the first to take Land Warrior and Mounted Warrior into combat. Land Warrior is a state-of-the-art modular fighting system that combines computers, lasers, geolocation, and radios with soldiers' mission equipment to substantially improve situational awareness, mobility, sustainability, survivability, and lethality. It is designed to eliminate the fog of war.

In a user assessment at Fort Lewis, Land Warrior was proven to close 13 of 19 identified capability gaps, and soldiers with the 4th Bn., 9th Inf. Regt., who were interviewed from Iraq recently said that Land Warrior is

working even better in actual combat situations than it did in testing.

“It provides a sense of comfort in reducing the fratricide potential. ... Everyone knows where everyone else is on the battlefield, and everyone knows where everyone else's direct fire is,” said Capt. Mike Williams, Company A commander.

Sgt. Daniel Garza, RECON platoon squad leader who was also interviewed from the field, was a skeptic when training with Land Warrior last summer. But after six weeks in combat with Land Warrior, he said, “If given the choice, I would not go outside the wire without it.”

Land Warrior addresses issues of confusion in close combat situations and allows team leaders to see the locations of other dismounted soldiers and leaders as well as the enemy. It improves combat effectiveness and lethality for dismounted and mounted soldiers, and it provides increased unit situational awareness through interoperability with the vehicle crewman's Mounted Warrior system.



Soldiers from Fort Lewis, Wash., who have been using the Land Warrior and Mounted Warrior systems in Iraq for the last 45 days report that these “great tools” have surpassed their expectations.  
U.S. Army photograph

The MW ensemble provides the crewman connectivity while on the platform with communications to dismounted soldiers equipped with Land Warrior, the ability to see the FBCB2 Common Operational Picture, and location of dismounted LW-equipped soldiers on a helmet-mounted display. MW also increases the crewman's survivability with enhanced fire protection.

Garza talked about using the Land Warrior system during a recent raid: "I was able to see where both my squads were, and we were able to see where the target vehicles were."

He said one of his complaints during initial testing was about the weight of the system—about 10 pounds in a typical configuration. He said that he has "done a 180 in terms of how I feel about the system." Enhanced situational awareness is a payoff that more than offsets the increased load. About the weight, he said, "After a while, you don't even notice it."

Williams said the system has proven "extremely reliable" in combat situations, adding that it has held up in Iraq's extreme heat and desert terrain.

For additional information on Land Warrior or on Program Executive Office Soldier, which oversees Land Warrior and almost all other individual soldier equipment, visit < [www.peosoldier.army.mil](http://www.peosoldier.army.mil) >.

### NAVY NEWSSTAND (JULY 18, 2007) NEW GEAR FOR AFGHAN COMMANDOS

*Petty Officer First Class David Votroubek, USN*

**C**amp Morehead, Kabul, Afghanistan—To an American, the weapons and equipment would look familiar on any base in Afghanistan. The difference is that now it's in the hands of Afghan soldiers. The Afghan National Army's 1st Commando Kandak (battalion) is completing their training and is receiving the same equipment as American soldiers.

The field issue and personal weapons now being used by the 1st Commando Kandak are modeled after a U.S. Army Ranger Battalion's organizational equipment, and all six of the ANA commando battalions will be similarly equipped. This makes interoperability and standardized training much easier.

The decision to use American weapons and equipment was made because they're considered more reliable, easier to obtain, and more familiar for the commando trainers. Quick procurement is important because all six of the ANA commando kandaks

### Logistics Command Graduates First Basic Computer Class

*Petty Officer First Class David Votroubek, USN*

**K**abul, Afghanistan—The Central Supply Depot in Kabul graduated its first basic computer class at the Logistics Command on July 22, 2007. Two of the 15 graduates were soldiers from the Afghan National Army and the rest were civilian workers at CSD.

The course will help the CSD workers to improve their processes for storage and distribution of materials for the ANA, which helps their soldiers fight insurgents in the field.

Training them was a team effort of five U.S. Air Force logistics mentors. The month-long course was taught by Senior Master Sgt. Wendel Wilson and Tech. Sgt. Natalie Cerchio of the Logistics Command, with help from Lt. Col. Steven Foss, Senior Master Sgt. David Fenn, and Tech. Sgt. Victor Gonzales III. Afghan interpreters assisted by checking the students' work. More importantly, the students helped each other.

"They help each other, and that's a good thing," said Cerchio. "As a teacher, that's what we want to see."

The CSD workers took the class while still working their regular jobs. This is typical in Afghanistan, but still indicates something about their eagerness to learn about computers. In fact, they wanted to extend the class even further.

They first learned to use a keyboard, and after the first week their progress steadily increased, according to Cerchio. Their ability to learn the basics of various office and word-processing programs impressed the instructors.

Wilson and Cerchio will keep training the CSD's workforce until they depart Afghanistan. At the rate of 15 students per class, approximately 90 CSD personnel will have a basic understanding of computer operations over the coming months. In turn, the training will expand to include more specialized courses like Decree 4.0, which will specifically help them understand ANA supply processes in the work center.

"This process is continuing until all people working at Central Supply Depot can use the computer," said Col. Ali Gohar, who commands the depot.

*Votroubek writes for Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan Public Affairs.*

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are expected to be equipped and trained by September 2008.

The soldiers are being issued new M-4, M-240, and M-249 weapons; communications equipment; clothing; sleeping gear; and field equipment. The kandak even got a portable kitchen to cook hot meals in the field, which had been difficult for them to do in the past.

With the assistance of the ANA leadership, the Combined Security Transition Command–Afghanistan identified what the commandos needed. It took a tremendous effort of coordination. Besides CSTC-A's logistics and supply, many items needed to be quickly obtained through foreign military sales from the U.S. Department of Defense. It was truly a team effort between CSTC-A's mentors at Camp Morehead, contracting, legal advisors, comptrollers, and logistics personnel.

"We have to graduate all six battalions in a really short time frame" said U.S. Air Force Maj. Todd Cox. "The FMS case managers are great and work with us daily to solve any and all issues."

The work put in by the security assistance office in CSTC-A's CJ-4 logistics section is another good example of how people behind the scenes actually get new equipment into the field. People like U.S. Army Maj. Judy Davis and Hamid Noorie spent numerous personal hours researching and calling vendors to make purchases happen in time. And those efforts paid off, according to Lt. Cmdr. Julius Arnette, chief of logistics programs/resource manager for CJ-4. By paying close attention to both the needs and budget cycles, CJ-4 was able to get material in 2007 that would have been funded in 2008 or even 2009.

The commandos themselves worked hard to make the transition successful. Not only did they learn how to use the new weapons and radios, they also produced almost 300 more trainees than were anticipated. The commander of the 1st Commando Kandak, Lt. Col. Mohammad Farid Ahmadi, believes that his unit worked out supply and logistics issues that will make it easier for the next battalion.



Camp Morehead, Afghanistan. Two soldiers from the First Commando Battalion, armed with new M-4 rifles, conduct a raid during a field training exercise. The First Commando Battalion is part of the Afghan National Army's 201st Corps and began commando training at Camp Morehead on May 5, 2007.

U.S. Navy photograph by Petty Officer First Class David M. Votroubek, USN

Cox didn't mind the extra work at all. As an Air Force logistician he's used to working on supply, transportation, and mobilization in the United States. However, his experience with equipping Afghan commandos to fight for their country is a first for him.

CSTC-A will make history when the 1st Commando Kandak graduates on July 26, 2007. It'll be the first ANA unit to be completely trained and equipped with American gear, but it won't be the last. After the six commando battalions are trained by CSTC-A, the ANA will assume the mission of training commandos at Camp Morehead.

*Votroubek writes for Combined Security Transition Command–Afghanistan Public Affairs Office.*

### MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR COMBAT CASUALTY CARE (MC4)

(JULY 17, 2007)

### ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDING KICKS OFF IN KOREA

**F**ORT DETRICK, Md.—The electronic medical recording efforts on the battlefield expanded to the U.S. Army's 2nd Infantry Division (ID) in Korea, which recently began using the Army's Medical Communications for Combat Casualty Care (MC4) system to

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digitally document patient records and reorder medical supplies for the first time.

“MC4 will afford us a unique opportunity to record patient encounters—both in garrison and in the field—and permanently capture that data for bio-statistical analysis,” said Army Maj. Andrew Fletcher, brigade surgeon, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team (HBCT), 2nd ID. “It will make our daily workload immediately available for review and help justify our continuously changing needs for personnel, supplies, equipment, and pharmaceuticals.”

Fletcher manages healthcare operations for the brigade and commands more than 4,200 personnel as the senior licensed medical provider. “Initially there will be a transition period from paper to electronic documentation. As we have learned with transitioning our clinics from paper to AHLTA [Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application], I believe patient encounters will be executed more quickly and efficiently.”

MC4’s training and fielding efforts began June 6, with onsite support personnel educating more than 730 providers and

equipping them with 785 systems, including ruggedized handhelds, laptops, servers, and printers.

“Our junior soldiers have grown up with computers and they are eager to use the hardware and software deployed by MC4,” Fletcher said. “Since the 1st HBCT is the only unit in Korea that has separate aid stations, one of our main goals with MC4 is to provide the 18th Medical Command with patient information on a routine basis. Prior to MC4, we would have to accomplish this by fabricating spreadsheets based on paper medical records. This was very time-consuming, inaccurate, and fairly inaccessible to other agencies outside of Korea.”

Other units contributing to the digital medical recording effort in Korea include the 18th Medical Command, 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, and the 8th Army.

“The continued expansion of the digital medical recording mission brings military medical forces one big step forward in meeting their promise to deployed servicemembers,” said Army Lt. Col. Edward Clayson, MC4

MC4 trainers teach the 2nd Infantry Division medical providers in South Korea how to use their MC4 laptops for documenting patient care.  
Photograph courtesy MC4



commander and product manager. "Taking the necessary steps to create a comprehensive, electronic medical history will provide those returning from battle with the information they need to receive continued treatment at home. You can't put a price tag on that."

*Medical Communications for Combat Casualty Care (MC4) integrates, fields, and supports a medical information management system for Army tactical medical forces, enabling a comprehensive, lifelong electronic medical record for all servicemembers, and enhancing medical situational awareness for operational commanders. Headquartered at Fort Detrick, Md., MC4 is overseen by the Army Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems at Fort Belvoir, Va. For more information on MC4, visit <[www.mc4.army.mil](http://www.mc4.army.mil)>.*

### PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE SOLDIER (JULY 13, 2007) **SEE, ACQUIRE, AND TARGET**

*Debi Dawson*

**A**rmed with the latest in image intensification and other target acquisition technology, American soldiers have an edge in missions at night or in other low-visibility situations.

Lt. Col. Jim Smith, who oversees the U.S. Army's program that provides sensors and lasers, says that his products help soldiers to "see always, acquire first, and target once," adding that American soldiers "own the night." Smith is the product manager for sensors and lasers, which is part of Program Executive Office (PEO) Soldier. PEO Soldier designs, develops, buys, delivers, and sustains virtually everything the American soldier wears or carries.

PEO Soldier's sensors and lasers include helmet-mounted night vision devices that provide improved situational awareness in all conditions, thermal weapon sights that provide enhanced abilities to acquire targets in degraded visibility, and aiming lights and other devices that accurately locate targets.

Smith says these tools "enhance a soldier's ability to acquire, pick out those objects of interest within that battle space, and identify those [objects]."

The AN/PVS-14 Monocular Night Vision Device (MNVD) is a helmet-mounted device used by the soldier to amplify ambient light. The system is designed for use in conjunction with rifle-mounted aiming lights. The lightweight (14 ounce) monocular design provides operational flexibility to leaders, allowing retention of optimized night vision

in one eye. The AN/PVS-14 can also be mounted to the M16/M4 receiver rail.

The AN/PVS-10 Sniper Night Sight (SNS) enables the soldier to accurately acquire and engage targets using the M24 Sniper Weapon System at night to a range of 600 meters and during daylight to a range of 800 meters. SNS is a light-weight, weapon-mounted, image-intensified passive device designed primarily for use by the sniper in day and night operations. A day/night lever enables the user to alternate between day and night modes of operation. It includes a black line reticle for day use that is illuminated for night use when required.

Multi-functional Aiming Lights (MFAL) such as the ANPEQ-2A, ATPIAL, and DBAL-A2 are used in conjunction with night vision goggles to engage targets in low light conditions. When zeroed to the weapon, these devices provide an invisible continuous infrared beam along the weapon's line of fire. A visible, red dot aiming laser can also be selected to provide accurate aiming of a weapon during daylight or night operations.

The AN/PAS-13 Thermal Weapon Sight (TWS) family enables individual and crew-served weapon gunners to see deep into the battlefield, increase surveillance and target acquisition range, and penetrate obscurants, day or night. The TWS uses forward-looking infrared technology and provides a standard video output.

PEO Soldier always strives to improve current technologies and is never satisfied with the status quo. Program Executive Office Soldier Brig. Gen. R. Mark Brown says that PEO Soldier is "constantly looking for the next best thing—whether it's a technological advance or a relatively minor gear or clothing adjustment that will protect soldiers, save their lives, or just make their mission a little easier and more comfortable."

*Dawson writes for PEO Soldier at Fort Belvoir, Va.*

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JULY 18, 2007) **U.S. ARMY TO ACQUIRE FUTURE COMBAT SYSTEMS SPIN OUT AND MANNED GROUND VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY**

**T**he assistant secretary of the Army (acquisition, logistics and technology) approved sole source justification to procure on an other-than-full-and-open-competition basis future combat system (FCS) technology Spin Out Low-Rate Initial Production effort

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and the congressionally directed Manned Ground Vehicle Initial Production Platform Non-Line-of-Sight Cannon (NLOS-C).

The approval allows the Army to acquire FCS enhanced capabilities for the current force through technology insertions, termed Spin Outs. There will be three Spin Outs with technology insertion planned for 2008-2015.

Initially, the soldiers of the Army Evaluation Task Force will first receive Spin Out 1 technology for evaluation and training. Spin Out 1 consists of equipment sets to provide enhanced situational awareness and communication capabilities for the current force through technology insertions to Abrams, Bradley, and High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) vehicles. Technologies that will be delivered include "B kits" comprised of the ground mobile radio and the integrated computer system, system of systems common operating environment, battle command software, network management system software and both urban- and tactical-variant unattended ground sensors, and the Non-Line-of-Sight Launch System (NLOS-LS).

A total of 18 Manned Ground Vehicle Initial Production Platforms, also known as the NLOS-C, will be produced

starting in late 2008 and continuing at a rate of six vehicles per year through 2011. The NLOS-C will provide the soldier with networked, extended-range targeting and precision attack capability and is armed with a 155mm self-loading cannon.

FCS is the primary Army modernization program consisting of a family of manned and unmanned systems and sensors, connected to a common network, that will enable the modular force by providing soldiers with leading-edge technologies and capabilities that will allow them to dominate in complex environments.

### ARMY NEWS SERVICE (JULY 26, 2007) NEW SURVEILLANCE CAMERA MINIMIZES DANGER IN IRAQ

*Rapid Equipping Force*

**F**ort Belvoir, Va.—A new surveillance system that minimizes soldiers' exposure to harm while providing continual observation in operating areas has been fielded in Iraq after just three weeks of design and manufacturing.

The Army's Rapid Equipping Force developed the Rapid Deployment Integrated Surveillance System, or RDISS, to



Sgt. 1st Class Mark Henderson, operations noncommissioned officer with the Army's Rapid Equipping Force, installs a new surveillance system on Camp Victory, Baghdad. The system is called the Rapid Deployment Integrated Surveillance System, or RDISS.

Photograph by Maj. Robert Lenz, USA

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improve situational awareness for soldiers at joint security stations and combat outposts throughout Iraq.

“There are a lot of areas, especially obscured areas, around the combat outposts, and we needed a way to cut down on exposing the troops to this broad danger,” said Sgt. 1st Class Mark Henderson, REF operations non-commissioned officer.

The REF partnered with Exponent Inc., an engineering and scientific consulting firm, to develop the RDISS, which can be installed quickly and with minimal training.

“In this environment, where a potential sniper lurks around every corner, having the capability to maintain persistent surveillance while minimizing the risk to the soldiers is a must,” said Lt. Col. Daniel Shea, REF team leader in Iraq.

REF staff trained more than 100 soldiers, Marines, and civilians from 20 brigades in the last two months to install, troubleshoot, and maintain the system.

“It’s a very simple system to install and monitor yet the benefits are priceless. I know of a few occasions in which using RDISS has averted dangerous situations downrange. It’s already proven its worth,” Shea said.

REF plans to deploy hundreds of systems to Iraq and Afghanistan by year’s end.

“RDISS is a definitive asset when it comes to persistent surveillance, and as long as joint security stations and combat outposts remain targets of opportunity for enemy forces, RDISS will be there to help the soldiers,” Shea said.

### AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (AUG. 3, 2007) GAO REPORT RECOGNIZES DLA'S EXCESS PROPERTY PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS

**W**ASHINGTON—The Defense Logistics Agency has significantly improved its handling of excess military property, specifically F-14 Tomcat fighter jet parts, according to a new Government Accountability Office report.

The Aug. 1 report monitored the agency’s excess property sales from September 2006 to March 2007. During that time, GAO identified only two instances in which sensi-

tive items were inadvertently sold outside the Defense Department.

In the first instance in September, 295 items were released for sale inappropriately. The second instance in February 2007 led to 1,385 general hardware-type parts that could be used on F-14s and other aircraft being sold to the public. However, the Defense Logistics Agency identified this mistake immediately and has since recovered all but two of those items, DLA officials said. DLA voluntarily stopped the sale, transfer, and donation of all F-14 parts Jan. 26, limiting those items to reuse by the military services only.

Since July 2006, the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service, a DLA field activity, has taken several steps to prevent improper sales of military equipment to the public, officials said. Those include changing the way property is grouped in lots for sale, increasing scrutiny of items before sale, tightening controls on the release of property, creating a post-sale review and retrieval process, and designating some items as controlled with strict processes to prevent their sale to the public.

“We’ve made significant progress in tightening our control of sensitive military equipment, as GAO’s recent report confirms,” said Army Lt. Gen. Robert T. Dail, director of the Defense Logistics Agency. “We are pleased that GAO’s examination reflects the actions we have taken over the past year to ensure national security and proper reutilization and sale of government property. We promise to continue these efforts.”

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service provides Defense Department units worldwide with critical disposal services for material no longer needed for national defense. DRMS is responsible for property reuse—including resale, hazardous-property disposal, demilitarization, precious-metals recovery, and recycling program support.

DLA provides supply support and technical and logistics services to the U.S. military services and several federal civilian agencies. With headquarters at Fort Belvoir, Va., the agency is the one source for nearly every “consumable” military item, whether for combat readiness, emergency preparedness, or day-to-day operations.

*Defense Logistics Agency News Release.*

### INFORMATION ASSURANCE TECHNOLOGY ANALYSIS CENTER (AUG. 2, 2007)

#### NEW DOD REPORT LOOKS AT TODAY'S SOFTWARE SECURITY CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

**H**erndon, Va.—The Information Assurance Technology Analysis Center (IATAC), an information analysis center within the Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC), has just published *Software Security Assurance: A State of the Art Report*, which provides a comprehensive look at the most significant of today's efforts to improve the state of software security assurance.

The triple threat of cybercrime, cyberterrorism, and asymmetric information warfare is here to stay. Well-funded, highly motivated nation-state adversaries, terrorists, and criminals are overshadowing the more familiar ranks of malicious and recreational hackers in targeting the landscape of software-based systems; services; applications on the Internet and other private networks; and software on which, increasingly, our financial welfare, privacy, health, safety, and indeed, our very lives depend.

*Software Security Assurance: A State of the Art Report* describes the threats and common vulnerabilities to which software is subject. It presents the many ways in which the software security assurance problem is being framed and understood across government, industry, and academia; describes numerous methodologies, best practices, technologies, and tools currently being used to specify, design, and implement software that will be less vulnerable to attack; and to verify a software's attack resistance, attack tolerance, and attack resilience.

The publication offers a large number of available print and online resources from which readers can learn more about the principles and practices that constitute software security assurance. The report closes with observations about the potentials for success, remaining shortcomings, and emerging trends across the software security assurance landscape.

*Software Security Assurance: A State of the Art Report*, Karen Mercedes Goertzel, et al, July 31, 2007, 392 pages, is available from IATAC. Call 703-984-0775; e-mail [iatac@dtic.mil](mailto:iatac@dtic.mil); or visit the IATAC Web site at <<http://iac.dtic.mil/iatac>>.

### ARMY NEWS SERVICE (AUG. 9, 2007) ARMY LOGISTICS BEGINS NEW CHAPTER IN IRAQ

*Multi-National Corps–Iraq Public Affairs Office*

**L**OGISTICS SUPPORT AREA ANACONDA, Iraq—The 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command from Coraopolis, Pa., assumed authority of the logistical support mission for the Iraq Theater from the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), Aug. 8.

“This is a historic event with the 316th being the first command to use the Army's new modular force logistics

**“This is a historic event with the 316th being the first command to use the Army's new modular force logistics structure. This structure changes the way we provide logistical support on the battlefields today.”**

—Col. Karen Jennings, USA  
Deputy Commanding Officer  
316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command

structure. This structure changes the way we provide logistical support on the battlefields today,” said Col. Karen Jennings, deputy commanding officer for the 316th.

“With the unit standing up in September 2006, just 10 months ago, the progress we have made is just outstanding,” said Jennings.

The 316th is comprised of soldiers from 43 states and four countries who have attended more than 500 training courses to help them prepare for their mission since standing up.

“We have a tough road ahead of us. Our soldiers will be outside the wire daily; but our soldiers are disciplined, well-trained, and committed to excellence. The 13th has

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laid a great foundation for the 316th to build upon,” said Jennings.

The 316th continues the mission of planning, monitoring, and providing daily logistical support to soldiers in the fight throughout Iraq.

The incoming commanding general for the 316th is Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch, and the incoming command sergeant major is Command Sgt. Maj. Stacey E. Davis.

“I am confident Brig. Gen. Couch, Command Sgt. Maj. Davis, and all the other soldiers (and airmen) in the 316th will meet the 13th’s standards and then surpass them,” said Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry, 13th commanding general.

“I can’t say enough about how prepared the 316th was upon arrival,” said Terry. “Because of their enthusiasm and dedication, the transition process went seamlessly.”

The 13th, headquartered in Fort Hood, Texas, is passing on a well-organized and very successful system to the 316th, said Terry.

“What the 13th has accomplished is simply remarkable,” said Maj. Gen. James Simmons, deputy commanding general for Multinational Corps-Iraq. “The 13th has executed over 35,000 combat logistical patrols, they have driven over 19 million miles, they have moved over 780 million gallons of fuel, 3.2 billion gallons of bulk water, and 28 million cases of bottled water to FOBs [forward-operating bases] throughout this country.”

This transition marks a new chapter for the Army—a chapter that will no doubt be very successful, said Terry.

### AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS (AUG. 10, 2007) PREDATOR SOARS TO RECORD NUMBER OF SORTIES

*Master Sgt. Steve Horton, USAF*

**B**ALAD AIR BASE, Iraq—When terrorists tried shooting mortar rounds at Balad Air Base in July, they didn’t count on the tireless, unblinking eye of an MQ-1 Predator unmanned aerial vehicle overhead, transmitting their every move to airmen on the ground.

Airmen assigned to the 46th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron kept the Predator overhead July 24 watching the men while they confirmed what they were seeing with a joint terminal attack controller on the ground.

After confirmation, the order was given for the Predator to launch an air strike and, moments later, a Hellfire air-to-ground missile struck the terrorists’ car when they fled, killing the three terrorists.

“The Predator crews go through the same targeting and approval processes as a pilot flying another strike aircraft before shooting a weapon,” said Col. Marilyn Kott, the 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group deputy commander. “They coordinate with ground forces to confirm targets and coordinate on the best course of action for the situation.”

Sometimes the best course of action is launching an air strike; other times it can mean remaining overhead to observe or follow possible insurgents as they move around the countryside.

“The crews flying the Predator report possible enemy activity and give the joint terminal attack controller and the ground and air commanders the opportunity to decide what they want to do with that information,” Kott said.

“They can agree that the activity needs to be stopped right away and can target the perpetrators.”

Because the Predator has a long loiter time, it is an ideal platform for intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, so the 46th ERS mission load has increased.

June, a busy month for most U.S. and coalition forces conducting and supporting combat operations throughout Iraq, was a record-setting month for the 46th. They recorded a record number of combat sorties and flying hours for the Predator during the month. More than 175 combat sorties were generated, producing 3,279 flying hours.

July was just as busy for Predator operations. The squadron flew the same number of combat sorties as in June, but increased flying hours to more than 3,300.

“It says a lot about how much the Predator is employed and how busy the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing is now as opposed to some previous periods of Operation Iraqi Freedom,” Kott said. “That’s partially because the wing and the (continental U.S.) Predator units have increased OIF Predator capability, developing logistics and technologies to make the system more successful in a deployed environment.”

And with success comes more requests for the Predator's services.

"The air battle staff asks for the Predator constantly because it provides such a fine [intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance] platform, and it's always airborne," the colonel said. "The objective here is to find and follow activity that might be aiding the insurgents."

"The sorties and hours are increasing as a result of increased demand," said Maj. Jon Dagley, the 46th ERS commander. "Currently, the Predator is the most requested asset in theater. As warriors continue to recognize how the Predator works, what it brings to the fight, and what it can do for them, its demand will only continue to skyrocket."

Even with the number of sorties and flying hours increasing, the colonel is quick to point out the rigorous thought process that goes into the decision to launch an air strike or not.

"The [improvised explosive devices] terrorists are planting, for example, don't just affect our convoys; they pose a danger to civilians living here too," Kott said. "The more surgical we can be at stopping insurgent behavior, the better [it will be] for the civilians trying to get on with their lives."

The 46th ERS, consisting of less than a dozen airmen, is responsible for the takeoff and landing of Balad Air Base's fleet of Predators as well as flying operations within a 25-mile radius of the base. Every sortie is manned on the ground by a pilot, who flies the aircraft and controls the weapons system by remote control, and a sensor operator, who controls the camera view and laser targeting system on the aircraft.

Once the Predator is in the air, the pilot and sensor operator will locate a target point used to zero in the weapons system. The sensor operator works with ground members to ensure the laser, which guides the Predator's weapons system, is on target. When the weapons system has been zeroed in, the pilot prepares to hand control of the Predator to airmen stationed halfway around the world at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., or at March Air Reserve Base, Calif.

"The Predator is coming into its own as a no-kidding weapon versus a reconnaissance-only platform," Dagley said. "The work it is doing with its precision-strike capability on top of top-notch ISR, is forcing many people to stand up and take notice. It is forging new ground almost

daily. It is paving the way for future technologies and applications, and, as a result, tactics."

By coming into its own as a weapon to complement its ISR capability, the number of Predator sorties and flying hours will continue to increase. That's good news to U.S. and coalition forces, and bad news to the terrorists who think they can continue to threaten the security of Iraq.

*Horton writes for the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs.*

### AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (AUG. 10, 2007) **LONG-TERM SECURITY IN IRAQ DEPENDS ON ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, OFFICIAL SAYS**

*Donna Miles*

**W**ASHINGTON—Getting Iraqis back to work is critical to Iraq's future as a stable, secure, and prosperous country that can stand up to terrorists, the Defense Department official overseeing that effort said today.

Iraq's long-term security depends on a strong economic climate, Paul Brinkley, deputy under secretary for business transformation, told online journalists and bloggers during a conference call from Baghdad.

More than 50 percent of the Iraqi population is out of work or underemployed, a statistic Brinkley said would create unrest anywhere, including the United States. "Terrorist networks are preying on this economic distress" in Iraq, he said. He cited Army Gen. David H. Petraeus' counterinsurgency vision for Iraq: a security establishment augmented by rapid economic development and restoration of employment and hope to the Iraqi people. This two-pronged approach "directly undermines the ability of terror networks and insurgents to gain sympathy from local populations and makes the job of securing this country vastly easier," Brinkley said.

As director of the task force to improve business and stability operations in Iraq, Brinkley is working to ensure the economic side of Petraeus' equation keeps pace with security progress. The task force's number one focus is Iraq's idle industrial base, which fell into distress after 2003 and left many Iraqis out of work. Congress recently appropriated \$50 million to the task force to speed up the restart of Iraqi industries, Brinkley said.

The first step to getting Iraq's factories up and running is to ensure they have the sewer, water, electrical, and telecommu-

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nications services they need to operate, he said. As the U.S. reconstruction effort brings Iraq's neglected infrastructure up to speed, it's laying the foundation for Iraq's economic development.

Brinkley cited several recent and upcoming milestones that mark progress:

- More factories are reopening. These factories, to be announced Aug. 13 during a joint news conference with Iraqi officials, will join six Iraqi factories already operational throughout Iraq.
- A reopened Iraqi clothing factory announced its first orders for export. Major U.S. retailers are involved, and some Iraq-made clothes are expected to be on U.S. shelves in time for Christmas.
- Executives from major U.S. corporations recently visited Iraq to explore ways to put Iraqis back to work manufacturing vehicles and heavy equipment for the Iraqi government and Iraq's private transportation infrastructure.
- More than 30 plant managers from around Iraq attended a session last week to discuss efforts to reemploy Iraq's skilled workforce and the need for financial transparency in spending funds allocated toward this effort.

Brinkley said this kind of success breeds more success and gives the Iraqi people hope for the future. He expressed confidence that these and other efforts under way will help Iraq regain its past reputation for having "one of the most skilled and educated workforces in the Middle East."

*Miles writes for American Forces Press Service.*

### AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS (AUG. 10, 2007) SECRETARY MONITORS JOINT TACTICAL RADIO SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

**W**ASHINGTON—The secretary of the Air Force recently visited the Joint Program Executive Office in San Diego to discuss the current status of the Department of Defense-mandated Joint Tactical Radio System, or JTRS, program.

Secretary Michael W. Wynne, who sits on the board of directors for the JTRS program, received updates on the accomplishments, goals, and challenges facing JTRS.

The goal of the JTRS program is to produce a family of radios that operate in a network to ensure secure, wireless communication for mobile and fixed forces across the joint battlefield.

JTRS radios will enable the transfer of voice, data, and video between the Air Force and joint users. JTRS will also have the ability to use multiple waveforms to allow communication between joint users using a single radio type, cutting out the need to carry and maintain various handheld, aircraft, maritime, and other legacy radios used in the field today.

"Cutting-edge networking technologies like JTRS vastly magnify U.S. military power," said Wynne. "Advanced waveforms are an important means of protecting our forces and ensuring our dominance of battlefield cyberspace."

The Air Force, in partnership with other Services, plays a key part in developing the JTRS family of radios through the Airborne Maritime Fixed program office at the Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass.

The AMF program provides information sharing and collaboration by supporting advanced networking capabilities to transmit, receive, bridge, and gateway between similar and diverse waveforms over multiple communications media and networks. These capabilities will be enabled by Navy satellite communications and waveforms.

The radios are scheduled to enter the system design and development phase during the first quarter of 2008. The first radios are expected to be produced as early as 2011.

"The overall success of the joint warfighter depends on information sharing and collaboration among branches of the U.S. military and our coalition partners," said Dennis Bauman, the joint program executive officer for JTRS. "JTRS radio systems will benefit the tactical user by supporting real-time, battlefield awareness through an interoperable, networked communication capability, enabling battlefield superiority."

### ARMY NEWS SERVICE (AUG. 15, 2007) ARMY UNVEILS FIRST HYBRID-ELECTRIC PROPULSION SYSTEM FOR NEW COMBAT VEHICLES

**T**he Army unveiled its first hybrid-electric propulsion system for a new fleet of Manned Ground Vehicles (MGVs), which will be tested and evaluated at the Power and Energy Systems Integration Laboratory (P&E SIL) in Santa Clara, Calif.

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## In the News

The Army is developing and building eight new MGV variants for 15 Future Combat Systems Brigade Combat Teams (FCS BCTs). All eight commonly designed MGV variants will provide soldiers with enhanced survivability, increased speed and mobility, new network-based capabilities, and more modern, modular technology.

The Army is saving money by employing a common chassis across all eight MGV variants. Indeed, with 75-80 percent commonality, the MGV chassis significantly reduces design, production, and sustainment costs versus the expense of eight completely different MGV variants.

“Today’s unveiling of our new MGV hybrid-electric propulsion system shows, once again, that future combat systems really are about what’s happening today,” said FCS BCT Program Manager Maj. Gen. Charles Cartwright. “With new FCS technologies, the Army is providing state-of-the-art capabilities to our soldiers sooner rather than later,” he added.

Today’s milestone also is significant because, for the first time, the Army will be integrating a functional hybrid-electric drive system into a combat vehicle. The drive system is part of the propulsion system that will power the vehicles.

The Army is using hybrid-electric power because the more modern FCS BCTs have much greater electrical power requirements than the current force heavy BCTs. Hybrid-electric vehicles provide the requisite electrical power because they employ a rechargeable energy storage system. An ancillary benefit of the hybrid-electric vehicles is improved fuel economy and less reliance on oil, natural gas, and other fossil fuels.

The Army has long been at the forefront of developing hybrid-electric vehicles. In fact, the Army’s hybrid-electric vehicles are significantly more robust and more powerful than commercial hybrid vehicles. The first hybrid-electric MGV variant, the Non-Line-of-Sight Cannon (NLOS-C), will commence production in late 2008.

“The MGV drive train is unique,” said Col. Bryan McVeigh, product manager for MGV systems integration. “The traditional engine has been de-coupled from the drive train architecture and is designed only to recharge the energy storage system and power the vehicular systems.

“The hybrid drive system alone,” he added, “literally will move the vehicle. This is a new and better way of moving across the battlefield.”

Soldiers in the Army Evaluation Task Force (AETF) will begin testing mature FCS Spin-Out 1 technologies this year at Fort Bliss. Once the AETF has completed its evaluation, these technologies will become available for fielding to deployed forces. Precursor FCS technologies, including the PacBot Tactical Robot and Micro (Unmanned) Air Vehicle, already are being used by soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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### ARMY NEWS SERVICE (AUG. 20, 2007) MORE MINE-RESISTANT, AMBUSH-PROTECTED VEHICLES SHIPPED TO MIDDLE EAST

*Sgt. Sara Wood, USA*

**W**ASHINGTON—U.S. troops serving in Iraq will have a little more protection soon, as two of the military’s newest armored vehicles are on their way to the theater.

Two Buffalo mine-resistant, ambush-protected vehicles, known as “MRAPs,” were loaded onto C-5 Galaxy aircraft Thursday night at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., to be shipped to Iraq. This latest shipment is part of the Defense Department’s push to get as many of the new vehicles to troops in combat as quickly as possible.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates has been pushing the production and delivery of MRAPs, which boast a V-shaped hull that deflects bomb blasts and protects troops inside better than the military’s current vehicles. The Defense Department awarded two more contracts for the vehicles the week of Aug. 10, which brings the number of vehicles on contract to 6,415. An estimated 3,500 MRAPs are expected to be shipped to Iraq by Dec. 31.

The MRAPs are shipped to Iraq by the 437th Airlift Wing, out of Charleston. The vehicles are part of the 300 tons of cargo the unit moves on a daily basis. It typically takes two days to airlift the MRAPs to Iraq, said Cynthia Bauer, a public affairs officer with U.S. Transportation Command, which oversees the movement of the vehicles. A small number of MRAPs are taken by sea, which takes between 22 and 30 days, she said.

A Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle is loaded onto a C-5 Galaxy aircraft Aug. 16 at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. Air Mobility Command assists with the movement of MRAP vehicles to U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility as directed by the National Command Authority, the Joint Staff, and U.S. Transportation Command.

Photograph by Staff Sgt. Jason Robertson, USA



As of Aug. 9, Transportation Command had shipped 701 MRAPs and MRAP-like vehicles to the Central Command area, Bauer said. The command will continue to ship vehicles as military commanders in theater request them.

MRAPs come in three categories. Category I vehicles are designed for urban combat operations and can transport six people. Category II vehicles have multi-mission capabilities, including convoy lead, troop transport, ambulance, explosive ordnance disposal, and combat engineering and can transport up to 10 people. Category III vehicles perform mine and IED clearance operations and explosive ordnance disposal and can transport six people, or five with additional equipment. The Buffalos that were shipped Thursday fall under Category III.

The troops who participated in loading the vehicles yesterday told local media that they feel their job is important because the MRAPs have been proven to save lives in combat. "It's absolutely critical. It saves lives every day when they have them," Air Force Master Sgt. Jared Breyer, with the 437th Airlift Wing, told ABC News.

*Wood writes for the American Forces Press Service.*

### AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS (AUG. 21, 2007) DEFENSE PROCUREMENT DIRECTOR PROMOTES BALANCED ACQUISITION

*Rudy Purificato*

**B**ROOKS CITY-BASE, Texas—The Defense Department's top procurement executive shared his views with contract specialists regarding strategic sourcing designed to maximize efficiency in how the federal government procures goods and services Aug. 16 at Brooks City-Base.

Shay Assad, the director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, held local town hall meetings to discuss DoD initiatives and strategies for improving support to America's warfighters while balancing the need to spend taxpayers' money more effectively.

Assad, who has been on the job since April 2006, oversees the obligation of \$300 billion annually for the acquisition of all major weapon systems, automated information systems, and services within DoD.

## In the News

His nationwide tour of military installations to talk directly to the federal acquisition community was made in response to his commitment as DoD's primary change agent for the implementation of strategic sourcing for goods and services.

"We [DoD] spend more than \$150 billion a year on services. We've got to get it right in terms of being extremely focused on the kinds of goods and services we buy," Assad said.

He said there is more scrutiny today by Congress, the media, and the American public of questionable government expenditures than that which may have existed in the past.

"There is more emphasis on how we buy services and recommendations to conserve," said Assad referring to dwindling federal resources and budget constraints. The DoD acquisition community is developing tools to conduct market research to assist the contracting workforce in finding a fair and equitable price for goods and services.

"We serve warfighters and taxpayers," he said. "When we negotiate a deal, we must take both of them into account."

He encouraged federal workers to use initiatives "to increase our buying power."

Assad said these initiatives are immeasurably important to helping maximize the limited government resources of our nation at war.

*Purificato is with 311th Human Systems Wing.* ARMY NEWS SERVICE (AUG. 17, 2007)



Shay Assad discusses his philosophy of being accountable to the warfighter and taxpayer when dealing with contractors during a town hall meeting with Brooks City-Base contracting members Aug. 16 at Brooks City-Base, Texas. Assad is the Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy and Strategic Sourcing director. U.S. Air Force photograph by Steve Thurow

## NEW CHINOOK UNVEILED AT FORT CAMPBELL

*Gregory Frye*

**F**ORT CAMPBELL, Ky.—Aviation history was made at Fort Campbell as a newly designed CH-47 Chinook helicopter was officially ushered into operation.

Allowing greater capability and soldier safety, the new \$30 million bird was turned over to Company B, 7th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment, 159th Combat Aviation Brigade.

"How appropriate that we come together here with this aircraft at this installation with this unit," said Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Schloesser, 101st Airborne Division commander.



Chief Warrant Officer 4 David Watson, standardization instructor pilot, and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Tom Miskowiec, standardization instructor pilot and instrument flight examiner, 7th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, fly a new CH-47F using the Advanced Flight Control System.

Photograph by Gregory Frye

Most known for its tandem rotors and heavy-lift capabilities, the helicopter can fly in extremely high altitudes and handle cargo unlike any other aircraft.

Now with digital screens instead of analog gauges, the new Advanced Flight Control System improves situational awareness by allowing pilots to easily upload such mission details as routes and altitudes. A revamped airframe designed for 10,000 flight hours also eliminates extraneous vibrations and maintenance time.

"It provides more capability at an easier maintenance cost than ever before," Schloesser said.

Safety is the best thing about the new model, said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Tom Miskowiec, standardization instructor pilot and instrument flight examiner, 7th Bn., 101st Avn. Regt. "In safety there's capability. When we

can do it safer and easier, it provides us with more abilities to support the warfighter."

Boeing worked with the Army for three years to design and prepare the new model, the first conventional Chinook upgrade in more than 20 years.

"The CH-47F is a fully modernized aircraft that will fully meet the operational challenges that our Army and our country face now and in the future," said Chuck Allen, vice president and general manager of rotorcraft systems, Boeing.

"It's really exciting to get a new aircraft," added Chief Warrant Officer 2 Ryan Dechent, Chinook pilot with the 7th Bn., 101st Avn. Regt. "I think it's going to extend our capabilities and open new avenues that we haven't been able to go down before."

More than 100 CH-47F Chinooks will be built from the ground up, while other Chinooks will be rebuilt to state-of-the-art standards.

*Frye writes for the Fort Campbell Courier.*

### AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS (SEPT. 4, 2007) NEW GLOBAL LOGISTICS UNIT TO BE HEADQUARTERED AT SCOTT

**W**RIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio—Air Force Materiel Command officials announced Aug. 30 that the Global Logistics Support Center headquarters will be located at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

The Global Logistics Support Center, or GLSC, will stand up in fiscal 2008 and serve as the Air Force's supply chain manager.

The decision to locate the GLSC headquarters at Scott AFB came after considering many potential sites, said Col. Brent Baker, the GLSC Provisional Office commander.

"Scott AFB provides the best balance of supply chain knowledge and operational focus," Baker said. "In short, Scott AFB provides the GLSC with a headquarters that is operationally focused and will be co-located with key supply chain activities such as U.S. Transportation Command and the Tanker Airlift Control Center.

"This decision only applies to the GLSC headquarters, which will stand up with approximately 16 people in fiscal year 2008," Baker said. "The existing supply chain processes remain in place and will be 'virtually integrated' into the new center, requiring few, if any, personnel relocations. This is an important message we need to communicate to our workforce and interested politicians."

GLSC headquarters will be co-located with the Supply Chain Operations at Scott AFB. The GLSC headquarters staff will perform the following functions:

- Ensure GLSC is focused on warfighter operations
- Integration of supply chain manager functions
- Care and feeding of functional staff
- Work memorandums of agreement across all necessary support relationships
- Point of entry for GLSC updated policy and guidance
- Coordinate all taskings in and out of the GLSC.

The 375th Airlift Wing at Scott AFB will support the GLSC headquarters staff.

Overall, GLSC will be a geographically dispersed organization with six operating locations. In addition to Scott AFB, these include Hill AFB, Utah; Langley AFB, Va.; Robins AFB, Ga.; Tinker AFB, Okla.; and Wright Patterson AFB.

"The two most important points, which cannot be emphasized enough, are that the GLSC will be an 'operational center,' and the vast majority of the people in the GLSC will remain at their current operational locations," Baker said.

The GLSC will support a concept of operations that integrates supply chain processes into a single end-to-end enterprise. When combined with other key logistics initiatives, this will help the Air Force meet its Expeditionary Logistics for the 21st century, or eLog21, goals of reducing annual operating support costs by 10 percent and increasing equipment availability by 20 percent.

The GLSC will be organized around three main supply chain functions: Supply chain planning and execution, or SCPE; supply chain operations, or SCO; and supply chain strategy and integration, or SCS&I.

People in SCPE will be located at Robins, Tinker, and Hill AFBs. Overall staffing will be approximately 3,000 people. Most will remain at their respective operating locations. Officials project an SCPE headquarters staff of five people to reside at Tinker AFB, although this decision is not final. SCPE provides direct interaction with the system program directors and system program managers at each center for requirements identification to ensure realistic and flexible enterprise planning.

People in SCO will be located at Scott, Langley, Robins, Tinker, and Hill AFBs. Overall staffing will be approximately 1,000 people. Most will remain at their respective Combat Air Forces and Mobility Air Forces logistics support centers and AFMC's three air logistics centers. An SCO headquarters staff of approximately five people will reside at Scott AFB. This organization ensures fast, effective customer support across the Air Force enterprise.

People in SCS&I will be located at Wright-Patterson AFB. This includes leadership and workers—approximately 200 people. Most currently are located at Wright-Patterson AFB and perform the majority of current SCS&I functions. An SCS&I headquarters staff of approximately five people will also reside at Wright-Patterson AFB. This allows direct connection with the Headquarters AFMC functional staff and ensures integration with other eLog21 initiatives.

*Courtesy of Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs.*